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***Africa Research in Sustainable Intensification for the Next Generation***

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**Endamehoni Farmers Field Day and 2nd Strategic IP Meeting Note**

**2-3 November 2014**

**Venue: Tsibet and Embahasti kebeles and Maichew Zone Administrative Meeting Hall**



# Endamehoni IPs organized Farmers Field Day

**Places:** Tsibet and Embahasti Kebeles

**Purpose:** To bring Stakeholders, Strategic IP members from woreda, Kebele Operation IP members, all FRGs involved in Africa RISING research activities and new other farmers to visit the research activities done at farmers’ field level in 2014. The main purpose is to for learning and sharing from field level experiences for potential scaling up through farmers to farmers technology transfer approach.

**Participants** **are**:

* Endamehoni Woreda Strategic IP members (woreda and zone representatives, research centres, Mekele University, NGOs )
* Tsibet Kebele Operational IP members
* Embahasti Kebele IP members
* FRG members (beneficiaries)
* ****Other new farmers and new invited key decision makers from different levels

## **Tsibet Kebele Farmers Fiedl Day**

The field day was started at morning 3:00 o’clock at Tsibet kebele

* Opening speech was done by Ato Haftu Welamo (Zonal administration representative): he was try to express his feeling on the activities done by Africa rising project on different technologies and practices and he announce farmers to carefully observe what happen at the field and everybody can take the experience and implement in his farms as well as transfer to other farmers and he officially opened the field day session
* The participants are moving to Ato Hayelom Giday bread wheat farm and apple tree planting around home stead. The farmer was explain that he was done 4 wheat variety selection trial in the past year and out of which he was select one best variety called Mekelle-4 which give 94kg per 10mX10m and he is now multiply its seed at 0.25 ha land by applying well land preparation, raw planting and fertilizer. He is also planning to sell this improved seed to other farmers to plant in next year.
* ****He was also plant 10 apple trees (namely 9 Anna varieties and 1 Princess) around his home stead. The source of the seedling was from Debrebirhan,
* The participants are forwarded their comment on the planted apple trees. The apple trees should be free from any grass and crop residue to avoid diseases contamination and it need especial management and Training on pruning, composting, and watering etc. This can be done by Alamata ARC horticulture researchers and woreda BoARD horticulture experts
* Next to this the participants are visiting fields of Participatory selection of wheat variety, Potato seed production, participatory faba bean, food and malt barley varietal selection at different farmers. The participants are raised comment on the wheat raw spacing of 20cm recommended by the project is different from BoARD spacing of 30cm and this is govern the seed rate and need to verify well and apply the best one. On the participatory wheat varietal selection farmers are also tried to select the best variety at its different stage and the best one is selected after harvesting and yield measure.
* On the potato seed production: the participants forwarded their comment the farmers is not apply well earthening practice this may be due to alot of holydays. The framer was responding that the reason why it was not well earthening was not due to a lot o holly days but it is due to lack of soil and he was also thinking no to damage the root of the potato during earthening.
* The improved faba bean variety is well performed as compare the local one due its chemical application at the perfect stage. Then farmers are well observed the difference of chemical application, resistance of the improved variety and good field management practice.
* On the food and malt barley participatory varietal selection it was good performed at the field and farmers are happy to see and select the best barley variety. The food barley are selected due to their six row spick as compare to local and malt barley that have two row spicks. The participants are observing the logging effect of the local and some improved malt barley variety even though they have better yield.
* At last general discussion was done and participants were happy on what the seen. Then farmers are expected to get and widely use the best improved variety of different crops from the seed producer farmers. The participants are also recommended the seed producer farmers to sell the improved seed for the kebele farmers rather than to sell to market for direct consumption. This can help to minimize the seed supply shortage of the improved variety for next year. The field day of the kebele was end up by acknowledgement of the participants.

## **Emba-Hasti Kebele farmers Field Day**

The field day was undertaking in the same date afternoon and the participants was visited the following field activities

* The potato participatory varietal selection at farmer’s level
* Forage Oat and vetch demonstration for small ruminant feeding and fattening
* Faba bean participatory varietal selection at different farmers

During field visit participants observe very good performance of the different crop and forage varieties and farmers demand for the improved varieties was high.

After field vist was completed general discussion was made and the following idea was raised

The introduced improved faba bean varieties are high yielder and better diseases resistance as compare to the local ones. The faba bean chemical spraying was also help full package and this is very important activity done by the project. The faba bean seems it is late set due to its late sowing. This could be due to the rain was raining at the midd July and this can be a couse for the delay maturity. The raw spacing of faba bean practiced during the demonstration was 20 cm but extension was also using 30cm spacing among rows, then it is better to see the best spacing and scaling up to other Pa of the woreda.

The farmers were also appreciated the oats and vetch forage varieties performance and they are highly demanded for the introduced forage varieties. In addition farmers were asking to get the forage variety seed and due to shortage of the forage seed farmers were not getting as their demand. Then demand is increasing for the next year.

One farmer was said that the seed rate given by the project was not attract me during the sowing period but when I saw latter I was happy and convinced

Farmers are forwarded this is good and exemplary work, but the main problem that affect our productivity is disease and need more attention

They also asked the project to provide improved seed of cabbage and carrot

The stakeholders was also recommend that farmers was observing the project achievements and every farmer is expected to have the good technology in the next year

The activities performance in the PA was appreciated by Woreda and zonal BoA and will consider as the bench mark for the woreda and the zone.

Farmers should exchange seed each other rather than selling to market for food. The pa should not expect improved seed from outside because it is in your PA and try to find by consulting the seed produced farmers soon.

Africa rising is already demonstrate its best technologies and practices the woreda BoA is also expected to work on the scaling up and expansion of this best technologies and practices

****After forwarding the best ideas and opinions the field day closing remark was made by the zonal BoARD head at Gebrezgher.

# **Endamehoni 2nd Innovation Platform Meeting Note**

**Title**: Endamehoni 2nd Strategic Innovation Platform Meeting Note

**Date**: 3 November 2014

**Venue**: Maichew Zone Administrative Meeting Hall

**Participants** **from** **Addis**: Zelalem and Elias (ILRI)

**Minute** by Sehin (Mekele University) and Harenet (Alamata ARC)

**Facilitator**: Gebrehiwot (CIP)

**Agenda of the meeting:**

* Update of Africa RISING activities – challenges and opportunities (Mohammed)
* IP Function and Structure ( Zelalem)
* IP Monitoring and Evaluation – Most significant Change Story (Elias)
* IP Communication tools (Harnet)
* Activity plan for IP and the way forward (Zelalem
* ****Visit to Maichew TVET – to visit raw planter and feed demonstration site

Notes before team break (Harenet)

**Agendas after tea break**

Presentations were done by Zelalem (IP functions and structure), by Elias (Most significant change story) and by Harinet (Communication tools)

**Discussion:**

After the presentation has done there was also a discussion. Questions and comments was raised by the IP members

1. Up to now 94 quintal per hectare of wheat and up to 400 quintal of potato was found; and also there is a promising production of faba bean it was almost not produced before Africa rising came because of disease. So the IP members were firmly asking about the scaling up issues. The technical committee answered for the scaling up issues we are the one who has the responsibility for the scaling up. One of the aims of the IP members is for scaling up of the best technologies.
2. Establishment of the knowledge center also helps for the scaling up. If the knowledge center established every promising best and new technology will be recorded and accessed by interested body. So this makes easy for scaling up by different stakeholders.
3. In the two Kebelles there are farmers who multiply improved wheat seed and improved potato seed. Thus the other farmers can get the improved and new technologies from the farmers that multiply the seeds.

**Next plan IP activities for 2007**

Works done so far by the Woreda IP

* Established kebelle technical committee
* Given training for apple growers. 50 farmers are trained in both kebelle, 25 farmers in Embahasti and 25 farmers in Tsibet.
* The technical committees are trained in Addis Abeba

The proposed next plan IP activities are

* Introducing improved feed for livestock and the farmers can select the improved feed by themselves. It also provide training on the usage and preservation of the improved feed
* Training on apple and exchange visit
* Evaluation results to be presented in the next Woreda and kebelle level IP meeting
* Scaling up with in the Kebelle and outside the Kebelles
* Post harvest
* Showing the technologies of row planter to farmers

At the end of the meeting, the technical committee agreed to meet after two weeks for deciding who and when is going to do the work of the next plan activities.

# Annexes

## Annex I Agenda of the IP meeting

**Intensification of Farming Systems in the Highlands of Ethiopia**

## **Endamnehoni Woreda 2nd Strategic Innovation Platform Meeting**

**3 November 2014**

**Venue**: Maichew Zone Admin Meeting Hall

**Agenda**

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| **Time** | **Activity** | **Presenter** | **Facilitator** | **Minute taker** |
| 2:30 – 3:00 | Registration | All | Getachew B | Harnet (AARC) |
| 3:00 -3:10 | Welcome | Mohamed |  |
| 3:10- 3:20 | Opening remarks | Semahegn (Woreda Admin) | Gebrehiwot |
| 3:20 – 3:30 | Self-introduction (Speed Networking) | Teafaye Hagos (TARI) |
| 3:30 –4:00 | Africa RISING activities | Mohammed (AR Site Coordinator) |
| 4:00-4:10 | Discussion |  |
| 4:10-4:30 | Tea/Coffee | All | Getachew B |  |
| 4:30-4:50 | IP functions and structure | Zelalem Lema (ILRI) | Gebrehiwot | Sihen (MU) and Mohamed (AR) |
| 4:50-5:05 | * Most Significant Change Story | Elias and Tesfaye Hagos (TARI)  M&E Champion |
| 5:05-5:20 | * Communication tools | Harnet Abrha (AARC) Communication champion |
| 5:20 – 6:00 | Next plan- IP activities for 2007   * TG –on livestock feed intervention at Tsibet and Embahsti * Training (eg Apple) * End season evaluation (Next IP meeting) – January | Zelalem Lema (ILRI) |
| 6:00- 6:20 | Stakeholder interaction tool | Tesfaye Hagos (TARI) |
| 6:20- 6:30 | Closing remarks | Zone Admin |
| 6:30 –8:00 | Group photo and lunch |  | Kagnew and Getachew |
| 8:00 – 10:00 | IP members visit to Maichew TVET   * Raw planter * Feed demonstration site |  |  |  |

## Annex 2: List of Participants

(Getachew please add the table here)